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REVIEWS.

SELECT CASES AND OTHER AUTHORITIES ON THE LAW OF PROPERTY. By John Chipman Gray. Vol. II. Cambridge: Charles W. Sever, 1889.

With the second volume, the plan which Professor Gray has followed in making this selection of cases becomes more apparent. In the catalogue of the Harvard Law School he has described his course as one on "Real Property;" but in naming his book he has dropped the adjective. An examination of these volumes makes his reasons clear, because he begins with some 300 pages devoted to personal property, the nature and acquisition of rights therein. He then turns to the subject of real property, and after an historical survey, of the feudal tenures, he finishes the first volume with cases on the nature and incidents of ownership in real property. Having treated of the rights of an owner in his own land, he devotes the second volume entirely to rights in the land of others. It is to be hoped that other volumes will follow, until Professor Gray has presented the whole subject of property as he teaches it. To those who have had the benefit of the "invisible treatise"—to quote Mr. James Schouler in the last number of the "American Law Review"—of Professor Gray's lectures, these books will save many a weary and unsuccessful hunt for authorities in ill-managed or defective libraries.

E. V. A.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF AGENCY. By Floyd R. Mechem. Callaghan & Co., Chicago, 1887. 8vo.

No branch of the law of equal importance has received so little attention from text writers as the law of agency; and in supplying a long-felt want in the profession, Mr. Mechem has given us a work of decided merit. The book is not constructed on the ordinary plans of recent text-books,—an incomplete digest, and badly arranged at that; but the author has very carefully classified the different branches of the law under discussion, and divided and subdivided the topics in a most admirable manner; in fact, one is almost led to believe that the law can be reduced to an exact science after reading Mr. Mechem's simple though exhaustive classification of the law of agency. The author's style is clear and terse, and though limited in space to one volume, he always gives a complete list of late cases, especially those decided in America. A special chapter on the legal relation of attorney and client adds to the value of the work,—it gives a clear exposition of what an attorney can do in virtue of his employment without the express consent of the client.

The arrangement of the book and the index are both excellent; the profession is to be congratulated in being able to lay aside the obsolete works of Story and Dr. Wharton, and in having their places supplied with a modern book adapted to the exigencies of the hour.

C. M. L.